

From: Vishakha Gupta
Subject: Reg I I - Debit card Interchange

Comments:

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Proposal: Regulation II - Debit Card Interchange Fees and Routing
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Comments:

Dear Federal Reserve Board: The proposed debit interchange rates concern me and I strongly oppose reducing interchange fees in the current form as the I do not see how this can help consumers in any way. The intent is to take away interchange fees from the financial institutions and remove fee's retailers pay for these debit and or credit card transactions. The The idea is for the retailers to give the fees back to the consumers by reducing their prices but that's not happening in reality in any major discount store whereas my bank has increased the fees for doing transactions and removed all rewards program. Now bank started charging fees for cashier check and travelers check which were free for last 12 years..I was standing in store line and two person paid by cash and it took more then 50 seconds to take their payment whereas credit/debit card takes only 15-20 seconds which increases processing for merchants. Think about everyone start paying with cash, consumer will be standing in line for hours to buy grocery everyday. I don't want my fees to go up so bank can continue offering debit cards, nor do I believe retailers will lower their prices. It is my belief that this legislation will have negative unintended consequences for the consumer. From my understanding of this proposal there is also no explanation, nor guarantee as to how the savings created for the retailer will be passed along to the consumer. Hopefully, this legislation will be repealed as part by the new Congress. However, should this law go into effect, hopefully the Federal Reserve will seek to strike the best balance of establishing reasonable fee limits for debit transactions that will serve to benefit the customers, as opposed to pandering to the populist rhetoric and regulations of limiting banking revenue. Please take this into consideration before this regulation is final. Sincerely, Vishakha Gupta